

124.6
1/11 Queen Street
BELLERIVE 7018.

18TH January 2001.

The State Ombudsman
Hobart.

Official Complaint – Clarence City Council.

Dear Sir,

I wish to make an official complaint against the Clarence City Council regarding its response to my representations about health issues in the vicinity of the Old Howrah tip site in the Wentworth Park area.

I understand that houses should never have been built lower down than Boronia Street, Howrah. Also parts of Silwood Avenue were developed over the edge of the tip site.

My family moved to Bembil Street, Howrah in August 1965 and at that time the tip was still in operation and then closed in approximately 1968. I understand there was an undertaking given by the then Clarence Commission that there was to be no houses built lower down than Boronia Street.

From my enquiries made to the Clarence City Council I have not been able to ascertain whether soil testing showed any toxic substances or contaminants.

I believe the Clarence City Council has not satisfactorily responded to my FOI request R93 on soil testing from the area in front of 15 Bembil Street, Howrah – (my former residence). The Council removed truckloads of soil from the footpath and I was told by them that no testing of the soil had been carried out. I dispute the reasoning provided by the Council in that the said soil was removed for pavement reconstruction purposes. It is very unusual for so much soil to be taken on the basis of pavement reconstruction. It is my belief that soil was removed for soil testing.

I would appreciate if these matters were investigated as a matter of urgency and an early answer provided to me.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs. Poppy Lopatniuk.